

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re U.S. Patent Application  
Bernard Paul Joseph Thiers**

**Examiner: Unassigned**

**Group Art: Unassigned**

**Serial Number: Unassigned**

**Filed: Herewith**

**Attorney Docket No.: THIE3009/JEK**

**For: FLOOR COVERING, FLOOR PANEL AND SET OF FLOOR PANELS  
FOR FORMING SUCH FLOOR COVERING AND METHODS FOR THE  
PACKAGING AND MANUFACTURING OF SUCH FLOOR PANELS**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to Rule 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.51(b), 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in the above-identified patent application. A listing of documents to be published on the face of any patent granted from this application is submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449. Any other documents or information submitted for consideration by the Examiner are listed in this paper. A copy of each U.S. and foreign patent, or each publication or portion thereof listed or herein identified is submitted herewith.

**ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS OR INFORMATION NOT LISTED ON  
ACCOMPANYING FORM PTO-1449 SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION**

Search Report of European Patent Office dated August 22, 2003 in related Belgium patent application No. 2003/00020.

Serial Number: Unassigned  
Attorney Docket: THIE3009/JEK

**CONCISE STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY  
(NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE DOCUMENTS ONLY)**

All of the documents listed on the appended PTO-1449 form except U.S. 753,791 are mentioned in the Search Report of the European Patent Office dated August 22, 2003 appended hereto, and the relevancy of each document is indicated in the Search Report. The relevancy of U.S. 753,791 is self-evident, as it is in the English language.

**STATEMENT OF CUMULATIVE INFORMATION**

U.S. Patent Publication Nos. 2003/024200 A1 and 2003/029115 A1 correspond to EP 1 024 234.

**STATEMENT REGARDING TRANSLATIONS**

An English language translation of the non-English documents is not available to Applicants' attorney, apart from the corresponding English patent documents indicated above in the paragraph entitled Statement of Cumulative Information.

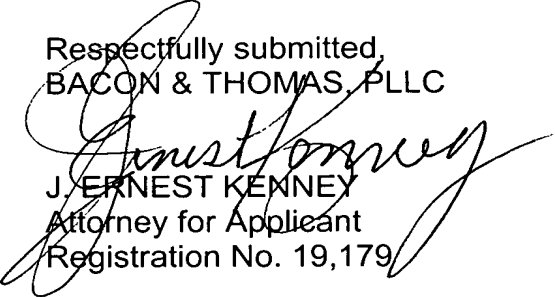
**STATEMENT OF TIMELINESS**

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted within three months of (i) the filing date of the above-identified U.S. National Patent application, or (ii) the date of entry into the U.S. National Stage of the above-identified International Application, or (iii) the date of entry into the U.S. National Stage of the International Application that has been assigned the above-identified U.S. Patent application number, whichever applies.

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The Examiner is requested to acknowledge consideration of the information provided in this paper in accordance with prescribed procedures.

Respectfully submitted,  
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC



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Date: January 9, 2004  
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B/O Form PTO-1449  U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office  Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant	Atty. Docket Number	Serial Number
	THIE3009/JEK	Unassigned
	Applicant	
	Bernard Paul Joseph Thiers	
	Filing Date	Group
	Herewith	Unassigned

## U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Patentee/Applicant	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	753,791	Mar. 1904	Fulghum			
	4,471,012	Sep. 1984	Maxwell			
	4,538,392	Sep. 1985	Hamar et al.			
	5,113,632	May 1992	Hanson			
	2002/0014047 A1	Feb. 2002	Thiers			

## Foreign Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Publication Date	Country/Agency	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
	1 024 234 A2	Aug. 2000	EPO				X
	1 308 577 A2	May 2003	EPO				X
	2 630 149	Oct. 1989	France				X
	02/25004 A2	Mar. 2002	WIPO				X

## Other Documents (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Place of Publication, Etc.)


Examiner

Date Considered

EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.